

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 173256

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, ECOSOC, UNEP

SUBJECT: ECOSOC CONSIDERATION OF CPC REPORT ON UNEP

REF: NAIROBI 6953

1. FOR GENEVA. WE DOUBT SITUATION CREATED IN COURSE OF
CPC CONSIDERATION OF UNEP MID-TERM PLAN WOULD BE IMPROVED
BY FURTHER EXAMINATION OF UNEP AT THIS SESSION OF ECOSOC.
WE THEREFORE HOPE MATTER CAN BE DISPOSED OF AS ROUTINE
ISSUE WITHOUT DISCUSSION. WOULD APPRECIATE DEL'S ASSESS-
MENT OF POSSIBILITIES ACHIEVING THIS OBJECTIVE, WHICH SEEMS
PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE, SINCE CPC HAS TARGETED ENVIRONMENT
FOR IN-DEPTH TREATMENT AT ITS 1977 SESSION.

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2. ABOVE ACTION WOULD ALSO BE IN LINE WITH OUR VIEW THAT APPROPRIATE PLATFORM FOR AIRING MEMBER STATES' DISSATISFACTION WITH ONE ASPECT OR ANOTHER OF UNEP SHOULD REMAIN PRIMARILY THE UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, ALTHOUGH WE FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT MEMBER STATES' POSITIONS ARE BOUND TO BE ECHOED TO GREATER OR LESSER EXTENT SUBSEQUENTLY IN THE ECOSOC AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3. IN OUR VIEW CHAPTER III OF CPC REPORT IS ONE SIDED AND SOMEWHAT OVERBLOWN. NEVERTHELESS, MANY OF THE CRITICISMS

LEVELED AT UNEP PARALLEL CONCERNS THAT THE US AND OTHERS HAVE EXPRESSED IN ONE SESSION OR ANOTHER OF THE UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL. IN FACT, CLOSE EXAMINATION OF THE REPORT OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL (UNEP/GC/85) WILL REVEAL THAT MOST OF THE CRITICAL COMMENTS SUBSEQUENTLY MADE IN THE CPC WERE MADE AT THAT SESSION. INSPITE OF THIS, THE GOVERNING COUNCIL'S DECISIONS GENERALLY ENDORSED THE MANAGEMENT OF UNEP AND THE DIRECTION OF THE UNEP PROGRAM, ALTHOUGH, IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS OF MANY MEMBERS INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, THE REPORT URGES GREATER CONCENTRATION OF UNEP'S EFFORTS. WE BELIEVE IN FACT THAT TOLBA'S BEST DEFENSE AGAINST CRITICISMS LEVELED IN THE CPC IS TO BE FOUND IN THE REPORT OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY THAT COUNCIL BY CONSENSUS.

4. FOR NAIROBI. PERMREP, IN HIS DISCRETION, MAY PASS SUBSTANCE OF FOREGOING INFORMALLY TO STEDMAN.

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